

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MAPUTO 00875 110651Z

ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 USIA-06 IO-13 OMB-01 /082 W

-----002177 110653Z /20

R 081506Z JUL 77

FM AMEMBASSY MAPUTO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6046

INFO AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

C O N F I D E N T I A L MAPUTO 0875

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MZ, PO

SUBJECT: MOZAMBIQUE'S RELATIONS WITH PORTUGAL

1. SUMMARY. NEWLY-ACCREDITED PORTUGUESE AMBASSADOR BELIEVES MOZAMBIQUE-PORLIGUESE RELATIONS MAY HAVE BOTTOMED OUT, THINKS PROSPECTS GOOD FOR SOME MODEST IMPROVEMENT IN RELATIONS. END SUMMARY.

2. ANTONIO VAZ PEREIRA, PORTUGAL'S AMBASSADOR TO MOZAMBIQUE, PRESENTED HIS CREDENTIALS TO PRESIDENT MACHEL ON JULY 1.

3. DURING CALL ON AMBASSADOR, PEREIRA SAID THAT RELATIONS BETWEEN PORTUGAL AND MOZAMBIQUE DURING THE SPRING OF THIS YEAR WERE ABOUT AS BAD AS THEY HAVE BEEN, BUT THINKS THE CLIMATE MAY BE RIPE FOR SOME MODEST IMPROVEMENT IN RELATIONS. PEREIRA NOTED THAT THE GOVERNMENT OF MOZAMBIQUE FINALLY APPEARS TO BE READY TO DEAL DIRECTLY WITH THE GOVERNMENT OF PORTUGAL, WHEREAS IN PAST IT PREFERRED TO DEAL WITH THE PORTUGUESE COMMUNIST PARTY OR OTHER LEFTIST ORGANIZATIONS. ACCORDING TO PEREIRA, ONE OF THE REASONS FOR THIS CHANGE IS THAT THE PRESENT EANES/SOARES
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GOVERNMENT IS PROVING TO BE MUCH MORE FIRMLY IN COFTROL THAN MOZAMBIQUE MAY HAVE ANTICIPATED OR MAY HAVE HOPED. ANOTHER REASON IS THAT THE MOZAMBICANS MAY BE DISAPPOINTED AT THE SMALL NUMBER OF CONTRACT WORKERS WHO HAVE BEEN RECRUITED FOR WORK IN MOZAMBIQUE BY THE NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS IN PORTUGAL WITH WHOM THE MOZAMBICANS HAVE BEEN DEALING. PEREIRA SAID THAT THE MOZAMBIQUE GOVERNMENT NOW APPEARS TO BE READY TO SEEK ASSISTANCE FROM THE

PORTUGUESE GOVERNMENT IN RECRUITING TECHNICIANS FOR WORK IN MOZAMBIQUE. FINALLY, PEREIRA THOUGHT THAT MACHEL MIGHT BE HAVING SECOND THOUGHTS ABOUT HIS RELATIONS WITH THE COMMUNIST PARTY AFTER LEARNING OF THE INVOLVEMENT OF PORTUGUESE COMMUNISTS AND LEFTISTS IN THE ANGOLAN COUP ATTEMPT.

4. PEREIRA ALSO SAID THAT PORTUGUESE BUSINESSMEN RESIDENT IN MOZAMBIQUE ARE BEGINNING TO EXPRESS OPTIMISM ABOUT THEIR INDIVIDUAL COMMERCIAL FUTURES IN MOZAMBIQUE. APPARENTLY, THE GOVERNMENT OF MOZAMBIQUE OFFICIALS ARE SEEKING OUT PORTUGUESE BUSINESSMEN TO PLACE ORDERS WITH THEM AND TO EXPLORE NEW COMMERCIAL VENTURES.
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Message Attributes

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Sent Date: 08-Jul-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
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TAGS: PDIP, PGOV, ECON, MZ, PO, (PEREIRA, ANTONIO VAZ)
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